

PATENT

Serial No. 10/574,145

Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action mailed on October 15, 2008

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 15, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks.

Claims 4-17 remain in this application, where claims 1-3 and 18-20 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications. Claims 1 and 4 are independent.

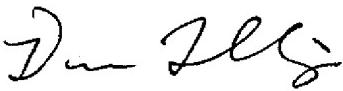
In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 4 and 12 are allowed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 4 and 12 are allowed. By means of the present amendment, claims 1-3 and 18-20 have been canceled without prejudice and claims 5-8, 13-15 and 17 have been amended to depend from allowed claim 4. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claims 5-11 and 13-17 should also be allowed at least based on

their dependence from independent claim 4 be allowed.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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